

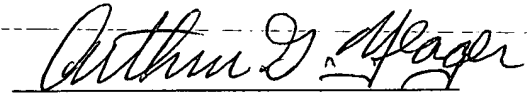
REMARKS

1. With regard to the Uehara '543 reference, the Examiner states that "This automatic control system is capable of 'remembering' which control device is issuing a command as well as receiving a command while performing conferencing." (emphasis added). In other words, one control device can send a command to the Uehara '543 system while the system is in a conferencing mode in response to a command that was issued from another control device. The present invention remembers a command after subsequent commands have not only been implemented but also, as now amended, after subsequent commands have been completed. This feature is not disclosed in Uehara '543 nor is it suggested in the cited art. This capability is an essential feature of the present invention.

2-6. Applicant also reiterates and incorporates by reference the remarks and arguments that have been presented in prior submitted amendments.

Accordingly, Claims 109, 126, 163, and 166 as all currently amended are believed to be patentable over the cited art as are the associated dependent claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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